

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Idaho [Mrs. CHENOWETH] that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 591.

The question was taken.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5, rule I, and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

HINSDALE COUNTY, COLORADO LAND EXCHANGE

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 587) to require the Secretary of the Interior to exchange certain lands located in Hinsdale County, Colorado.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 587

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. LARSON AND FRIENDS CREEK EXCHANGE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In exchange for conveyance to the United States of an equal value of offered land acceptable to the Secretary of the Interior that lies within, or in proximity to, the Handies Peak Wilderness Study Area, the Red Cloud Peak Wilderness Study Area, or the Alpine Loop Backcountry Bi-way, in Hinsdale County, Colorado, the Secretary of the Interior shall convey to Lake City Ranches, Ltd., a Texas limited partnership (referred to in this section as "LCR"), approximately 560 acres of selected land located in that county and generally depicted on a map entitled "Larson and Friends Creek Exchange", dated June 1996.

(b) CONTINGENCY.—The exchange under subsection (a) shall be contingent on the granting by LCR to the Secretary of a permanent conservation easement, on the approximately 440-acre Larson Creek portion of the selected land (as depicted on the map), that limits future use of the land to agricultural, wildlife, recreational, or open space purposes.

(c) APPRAISAL AND EQUALIZATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The exchange under subsection (a) shall be subject to—

(A) the appraisal requirements and equalization payment limitations set forth in section 206 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1716); and

(B) reviews and approvals relating to threatened species and endangered species, cultural and historic resources, and hazardous materials under other Federal laws

(2) COSTS OF APPRAISAL AND REVIEW.—The costs of appraisals and reviews shall be paid by LCR.

(3) CREDITING.—The Secretary may credit payments under paragraph (2) against the value of the selected land, if appropriate, under section 206(f) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1716(f)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah [Mr. HANSEN] and the gentleman from American Samoa [Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah [Mr. HANSEN].

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. HANSEN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, the companion bill to S. 587, H.R. 591, was introduced by the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. MCINNIS]. The gentleman from Colorado has assembled a bill that is agreeable to the administration, to the environmental community and to private property owners. I would also like to commend the gentleman from Texas [Mr. THORNBERRY], who has added his support to this bill. This bill authorizes an uncomplicated land exchange and is noncontroversial.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation. This is one of the four Colorado-related bills on today's calendar which started in the House and have returned with the Senate numbers. In this case the House passed H.R. 591 on July 8, 1997, and we have before us the same bill in the form of Senate bill 587.

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Senate bill 587 directs the Secretary of the Interior to transfer about 560 acres of land located in Hinsdale County in Colorado and currently managed by the Bureau of Land Management. The exchange is contingent upon Department of Conservation easement being placed on 400 of these acres. In exchange, the Bureau of Land Management will receive high-priority lands of equal value within the Handies Peak Wilderness study area, the Red Cloud Peak Wilderness study area, or the Alpine Loop Backcountry Bi-way. According to the Bureau of Land Management, these areas have important wilderness, wildlife, and recreational values. The exchange is subject to appraisals and other requirements under Federal law and must meet the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

This bill is supported by the administration, and I am not aware of any opposition.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this bill has very wide community support, and I urge all my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KINGSTON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah [Mr. HANSEN] that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 587.

The question was taken.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS WILDERNESS AND ERNEST F. COE VISITOR CENTER DESIGNATION ACT

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 931) to designate the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Wilderness and the Ernest F. Coe Visitor Center.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 931

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Marjory Stoneman Douglas Wilderness and Ernest F. Coe Visitor Center Designation Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1)(A) Marjory Stoneman Douglas, through her book, "The Everglades: River of Grass" (published in 1947), defined the Everglades for the people of the United States and the world;

(B) Mrs. Douglas's book was the first to stimulate widespread understanding of the Everglades ecosystem and ultimately served to awaken the desire of the people of the United States to restore the ecosystem's health;

(C) in her 107th year, Mrs. Douglas is the sole surviving member of the original group of people who devoted decades of selfless effort to establish the Everglades National Park;

(D) when the water supply and ecology of the Everglades, both within and outside the park became threatened by drainage and development, Mrs. Douglas dedicated the balance of her life to the defense of the Everglades through extraordinary personal effort and by inspiring countless other people to take action;

(E) for these and many other accomplishments, the President awarded Mrs. Douglas the Medal of Freedom on Earth Day, 1994; and

(2)(A) Ernest F. Coe (1886–1951) was a leader in the creation of Everglades National Park;

(B) Mr. Coe organized the Tropic Everglades National Park Association in 1928 and was widely regarded as the father of Everglades National Park;

(C) as a landscape architect, Mr. Coe's vision for the park recognized the need to protect south Florida's diverse wildlife and habitats for future generations;

(D) Mr. Coe's original park proposal included lands and waters subsequently protected within the Everglades National Park, the Big Cypress National Preserve, and the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary; and

(E)(i) Mr. Coe's leadership, selfless devotion, and commitment to achieving his vision culminated in the authorization of the Everglades National Park by Congress in 1934;

(ii) after authorization of the park, Mr. Coe fought tirelessly and lobbied strenuously for establishment of the park, finally realizing his dream in 1947; and

(iii) Mr. Coe accomplished much of the work described in this paragraph at his own expense, which dramatically demonstrated his commitment to establishment of Everglades National Park.

(b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act to commemorate the vision, leadership, and enduring contributions of Marjory Stoneman Douglas and Ernest F. Coe to the protection of the Everglades and the establishment of Everglades National Park.

SEC. 3. MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS WILDERNESS.

(a) REDESIGNATION.—Section 401(3) of the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-625; 92 Stat. 3490; 16 U.S.C. 1132 note) is amended by striking “to be known as the Everglades Wilderness” and inserting “to be known as the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Wilderness, to commemorate the vision and leadership shown by Mrs. Douglas in the protection of the Everglades and the establishment of the Everglades National Park”.

(b) NOTICE OF REDESIGNATION.—The Secretary of the Interior shall provide such notification of the redesignation made by the amendment made by subsection (a) by signs, materials, maps, markers, interpretive programs, and other means (including changes in signs, materials, maps, and markers in existence before the date of enactment of this Act) as will adequately inform the public of the redesignation of the wilderness area and the reasons for the redesignation.

(c) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any law, regulation, document, record, map, or other paper of the United States to the “Everglades Wilderness” shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Marjory Stoneman Douglas Wilderness”.

SEC. 4. ERNEST F. COE VISITOR CENTER.

(a) DESIGNATION.—Section 103 of the Everglades National Park Protection and Expansion Act of 1989 (16 U.S.C. 410r-7) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(f) ERNEST F. COE VISITOR CENTER.—On completion of construction of the main visitor center facility at the headquarters of Everglades National Park, the Secretary shall designate the visitor center facility as the ‘Ernest F. Coe Visitor Center’, to commemorate the vision and leadership shown by Mr. Coe in the establishment and protection of Everglades National Park.”.

SEC. 5. CONFORMING AND TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.

Section 103 of the Everglades National Park Protection and Expansion Act of 1989 (16 U.S.C. 410r-7) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(2), by striking “personally-owned” and inserting “personally-owned”; and

(2) in subsection (e), by striking “VISITOR CENTER” and inserting “MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS VISITOR CENTER”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah [Mr. HANSEN] and the gentleman from American Samoa [Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah [Mr. HANSEN].

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in full support of S. 931 and urge its adoption. Mr. DEUTSCH of Florida and Mr. GOSS from Florida introduced very similar legisla-

tion in the form of H.R. 136 in the House. The Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands held hearings on that legislation, and it is supported on a broad bipartisan basis by the Florida delegation, the administration, and many conservation organizations. I am pleased to support this legislation on the House floor and am pleased that we will be sending S. 931 to the President for his signature.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. First of all, Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the gentleman from Utah, the chairman of the Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands, for his leadership and especially for his being here managing this piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, Senate bill 931 is the Senate companion measure to House bill H.R. 136 introduced by my colleague, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. DEUTSCH], who has been a strong advocate for this legislation. H.R. 136 was favorably reported by the Committee on Resources, and we are bringing the Senate-passed bill to the floor to expedite consideration.

This is truly a noncontroversial matter, and I am glad to see the House considering this bill so it can be sent to the President for his signature.

When the Committee on Resources held a hearing on this legislative initiative, the administration of the National Park Service strongly supported the legislation which would name the Everglades Wilderness and Visitor Center after two individuals who have long and distinguished association with the Everglades National Park. Marjory Stoneman Douglas was a tireless advocate of the Everglades for many years, and it is fitting to recognize her work in protecting this unique ecosystem. Likewise, Ernest F. Coe is considered the father of Everglades National Park, and the bill honors his work by naming the visitor center for him.

With that said, Mr. Speaker, I support the legislation, and I urge my colleagues for their approval and adoption by this Chamber.

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 931, legislation to commemorate two individuals whose work and dedication were instrumental in establishing the Everglades National Park, one of our Nation's natural treasures. The legislation before us today is nearly identical to H.R. 136, of which I am a proud cosponsor.

This year, citizens throughout Florida, and indeed our Nation, celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Everglades National Park. Over the past five decades, our knowledge and appreciation for the tremendous resources, so critical to the environmental health and quality of life in our State, have deepened in large part to the two individuals commemorated in this legislation: Marjory Stoneman Douglas and Ernest F. Coe.

Through Mrs. Douglas' trailblazing book entitled “The Everglades: River of Grass,” Floridians were first alerted to the fragile nature of the Everglades ecosystem and the degree to which we are all dependent upon its continued health and protection. Since publication of the book in 1947, Mrs. Douglas has fought tirelessly in defense of the Everglades and now at the age of 107, she will be honored through this legislation designating 1.3 million acres within the park as the “Marjory Stoneman Douglas Wilderness.”

In addition, this bill will honor the “Papa of the Everglades National Park,” Ernest F. Coe, by naming the park's main visitor center after him. Mr. Coe's leadership was the driving force behind the establishment of the park and it was his vision which has inspired the preservation of the diverse ecosystem for future generations.

Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Everglades National Park it is fitting that we commemorate the valuable service of Mrs. Douglas and Mr. Coe and I urge all my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers on this, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah [Mr. HANSEN] that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 931.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 931.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM VOLUNTEER AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP ACT OF 1997

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1856) to amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a volunteer pilot project at one national wildlife refuge in each United States Fish and Wildlife Service region, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1856

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “National Wildlife Refuge System Volunteer and Community Partnership Act of 1997”.